

APPROVED

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 1, 2002
2:00 P.M. to 3:20 P.M.
Council Hearing Room

PRESENT

Marilyn J. Praisner, Chair

Phil Andrews

Howard A. Denis

SUBJECT: FY 03 Operating Budget – Office of Intergovernmental Relations

The Committee had before it the memorandum and attachments from Council Staff Director Farber, dated April 29, 2002.

ACTION: Recommended approval of the budget request of \$594,840, less \$5,950 in operating expenses to meet the 1.0 percent target reduction.

Discussed and praised the office's work in Annapolis this year and noted the great contributions of Mr. Bialek, Mr. Madaleno, and Ms. Sprague.

Noted Mrs. Praisner's comments about identifying state-funded programs for which the County provides additional funding, and the issue of which region the County is placed in for purposes of cost-of-living adjustments in state programs.

SUBJECT: FY 03 Operating Budget – Office of Inspector General

The Committee had before it the memorandum and attachments from Council Staff Director Farber, dated April 29, 2002.

ACTION: Recommended approval of the budget request of \$527,130, less \$5,270 in operating expenses to meet the 1.0 percent target reduction.

SUBJECT: Interagency Training Team

The Committee had before it the memorandum and attachments from Legislative Analyst Davidson, dated April 29, 2002.

ACTION: Received comments from Ms. Plucinski, Office of Human Resources (OHR), on the goals of the Interagency Training Team.

Requested that a Training Team representative be present when the Committee discusses the issue of succession planning.

Agreed to format the work plan for the Interagency Training Team as a resolution.

SUBJECT: Operating Budget Adjustments: Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 (GASB 34) Required Amendments

The Committee had before it the memorandum from Legislative Analyst Sherer, dated April 25, 2002.

ACTION: Recommended approval of the amendments as included in the County Executive's memorandum dated April 22, 2002, to align the County's budgeting practices with guidance from GASB 34.

Expressed concern that transferring Landlord-Tenant Affairs and Common Ownership Communities into the General Fund would make it impossible to know that the revenues for each function were used to provide the services for which the revenues are collected. Received assurance from Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Division of Finance Staff that mechanisms are in place to track revenues and expenses.

SUBJECT: Operating Budget Adjustments: NDA - Future Federal, State and Other Grants

The Committee had before it the memorandum from Mr. Sherer, dated April 24, 2002.

ACTION: Recommended approval of the revised \$15.0 million total for FY 03, noting that it is still \$10.0 million less than the \$25.0 million appropriated in FY 02.

SUBJECT: Operating Budget Adjustments: Department of Technology Services (DTS) - Expanded Internet Bandwidth

The Committee had before it the memorandum from Legislative Analysts Trombka and Healy, dated April 29, 2002.

ACTION: Received comments from Mr. Novak, DTS, that the Department is exploring internet connectivity to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and Montgomery College through FiberNet; that through eMontgomery the Department is developing a cross-agency approach, and that WSSC and Park and Planning are utilizing the autonomy search engine and MCPS and the College are reviewing it.

Noted that the streaming video provided of the Council sessions and traffic video requires a substantial amount of bandwidth.

Recommended approval of the Operating Budget adjustment to include \$86,000 for expanded Internet bandwidth.

Requested DTS Staff to provide a demonstration of the capabilities of the Internet with the expanded bandwidth after the August recess.

Councilmember Denis, lead member for personnel, in the Chair.

SUBJECT: Bill 9-01, County Employees - Collective Bargaining Unit

The Committee had before it the memorandum and attachments from Senior Legislative Attorney Faden, dated May 1, 2002.

ACTION: Expressed appreciation to everyone involved with this issue for their cooperation in addressing this legislation.

Received clarification from Mr. Faden that if the Management Leadership Service (MLS) is extended to Grade 27, it takes those employees out of the bargaining unit.

Noted Councilmember Praisner's view that she supports the legislation but that seasonal employees, because they are a large group, should have the opportunity to vote on whether to become part of the bargaining unit rather than becoming a part of the unit by accretion; and that she supports the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs not being included in a bargaining unit.

Councilmember Andrews expressed support for the bill.

Noted that the Office of Human Resources, the County Executive, and the Union support this legislation.

Recommended approval of Bill 9-01.

This is an accurate account of the meeting:

Mary A. Edgar, CMC
Clerk of the Council

Minutes written by: Stephen B. Farber, Council Staff Director
Mary Anne Paradise, Deputy Clerk
Charles H. Sherer, Legislative Analyst